

Remarks

The present amendment is filed with a Continuing Prosecution Patent Application (CPA), and is responsive to the Office Action mailed in the above-referenced case on August 8, 2002, made final. Claims 1-12 are presented below for examination. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nazem et al. (5,983,227), hereinafter Nazem, in view of Nehab (6,029,182), hereinafter Nehab.

Applicant has carefully studied the prior art presented by the Examiner, particularly the portions cited and applied by the Examiner, and the Examiner rejections and statements. In response to the Examiner's rejection of the claims, applicant herein provides argument to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as inventive, and to establish that the claims distinguished unarguably over the prior art. Applicant points out and argues the key limitations in the base claims that the Examiner appears to have misunderstood in his rejections and statements.

In the Office Action the Examiner's states that, as to independent claim 1, Nazem teaches an Internet Portal comprising an Internet-connected server, a portal software executing on the server including a summary software agent. The Examiner further states that, while teaching "summarizes the retrieved information for delivery to the subscriber", Nazem does not explicitly teach maintaining a list of Internet destinations specifically authorized and specified by the subscriber; and the summary software agent accesses the Internet destinations, retrieves information personal to the subscribing user, stores the retrieved information at the portal, according to pre-programmed criteria and summarizes the retrieved information for delivery to the subscriber.

The Examiners states that Nehab teaches maintaining a list of Internet destinations specifically authorized and specified by a subscriber; and the summary software agent accesses the Internet destinations, retrieves information

personal to the subscribing user, stores the retrieved information at the portal according to pre-programmed criteria, and summarizes the retrieved information for delivery to the subscriber. The Examiner continues that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Nehab and Nazem because it would have provided capability for facilitating searching and obtaining information from an Internet server.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's above statement that Nazem teaches all of the limitations of applicant's base claims, which Nehab fails to disclose. For convenience applicant reproduces claim 1 below.

Applicant's claim 1 in its last amended form recites:

1. (Once Amended) An Internet Portal, comprising:

an Internet-connected server; and

a portal software executing on the server, including a summary software agent;

wherein the Portal maintains a list of Internet destinations specifically authorized and specified by a subscriber, and the summary software agent accesses the Internet destinations, retrieves information personal to the subscribing user, stores the retrieved information at the portal, according to pre-programmed criteria, and summarizes the retrieved information for delivery to the subscriber.

On page 4, first paragraph, of applicant's specification it is clearly described that the software agent executing on the portal server may be programmed to perform scheduled tasks for the user including returning specific summaries and updates about user-account pages, and a search function cooperates with the software agent to search user-entered URLs for specific content if such pages are cached somewhere in their personal form such as at the portal server, or on the clients machine. In applicant's invention each Web site

that is accessed by the portal software agent contains information personal to the user, such as financial or other sensitive personal data, and each Web site has been preselected and authorized by the user to provide such personal information.

The Examiner cites a portion of Nehab (abstract, lines 1-22) supporting the Examiner's above statement that Nehab specifically discloses a summary software agent accesses the Internet destinations and retrieves information personal to the subscribing user. Upon careful and thorough review of the abstract of Nehab, and the remaining disclosure of Nehab, applicant argues that Nehab clearly does not disclose, intimate or suggest that the retrieved information is information that is personal to the user, such as financial or medical information, or other such sensitive personal data.

Col. 2, line 65 - col. 3, line 4 of Nehab recites that the invention creates a personal-news-profile for retrieving data from a hypermedia-linked computer network. The hypermedia-linked computer network is accessed, traversed with commands at least one rule is extracted from the commands, and the rule(s) is compiled into the personal-news-profile. Col. 3, line 5 - col. 3, line 14 recites that another aspect of the invention creates a personalization profile for a Web site retrieval data retrieval system. Data and commands are input to access the World Wide Web and commands are sent to traverse the World Wide Web, and at least one rule is extracted from the commands. The rule(s) is compiled into a personalization profile.

Although, as taught by Nehab in the above portions of the disclosure a personal-news-profile, and a personalization profile are disclosed, there is no teaching or suggestion that the data retrieved for compiling a personal newspaper, or the data stored for the personalization profile is data that is personal to user; in other words, data that is not accessible by those other than the participating user that are not authorized to access, download or store such sensitive data.

The personal-news-profile of Nehab contains information as to what Web sites to access for creating a personalized newspaper, what sections to retrieve from those Web sites, rules to be used to determine what dated to extract from the sections and the articles of the Web sites in rules to determine how to exclude links, and newspaper format information that the Web sites. Although the end result is a personalized newspaper formatted per the stored preferences of the participating user, the data accessed, retrieved and stored in compiling the personalized newspaper is data that is also accessible to anyone else surfing the Web, and is certainly not sensitive data that is personal to the user that is to be viewed only by the subscribing user, and that must be retrieved from personalized and secured Web sites, as is taught in applicant's invention.

The Internet service provider in applicant's invention provides a unique subscription service as an Internet portal for the purpose of storing many WEB pages or destinations along with any passwords and or personal codes associated with those pages. Portal software, as described in applicant's specification with reference to Fig. 2, provides an interactive application that lists all of the subscriber's WEB sites in the form of hyperlinks. When a user invokes a hyperlink from his personal list, the portal software uses the subscriber's personal information, such as passwords, codes and so on, to provide an automatic and transparent login function for the subscriber while jumping the subscriber to the subject destination, which may be a personalized and secure Web site storing data that is personal to user, only to be viewed by the user.

The specific limitation in applicant's claim 1 that the information retrieved and stored by the portal is information that is specific to user and personal to the user is clearly not disclose, intimated or suggested in the art of Nehab. Applicant therefore believes that independent claim 1 is clearly and unarguably patentable over the art of Nehab. Depending claims 2-7 are therefore patentable on their own merits, or at least as depended from patentable claim.

Applicant's claim 7 is applicant's method claim for practicing the Internet Portal of the present invention. The Examiner has rejected claim 7 using the same rationale as applied to applicant's claim 1, adding that Nehab teaches information personal to a subscribing user stored Web sites (launch Web reader, get user's personal ID; Fig. 5A). The Examiner further states that it would have been obvious to combine teachings of Nehab and Nazem because it would have provided the capability for avoiding unauthorized users from accessing the unauthorized information from the Internet.

Applicant, again, respectfully traverses the Examiner's statement, and points out to the Examiner that the user's personal ID as described in Nehab with reference to Fig. 5A does not enable the participating user to access, retrieve and store data that is secured data personal to the user, from secured Web sites. The user's personal ID is taught by Nehab to associate the participating user with a personal-news-profile that may or may not already exist for that ID. There still, is no teaching whatsoever in Nehab of accessing, retrieving and storing secured data that his personal to user, as is specifically claimed in claim 7.

Applicant believes independent claims 1 and 7 are therefore unarguably patentable over the combined art of Nazem and Nehab, as the prior art clearly fails to disclose the limitations of applicant's claims as argued, and therefore fails to support the 103(a) rejection of applicant's claims given by the Examiner.

Applicant's dependent claims 8-12 include the same limitations as in applicant's dependent claims 2-6, which, as argued above on behalf of claim 1, have been shown to be patentable on their own merits, or at least as depended from a patentable claim. The Examiner rejects applicant's claims 8-12 using the same rationale as applied to claims 2-6. Applicant believes claims 8-12 are then patentable as argued above by applicant, on their own merits, or at least as depended from a patentable claim.

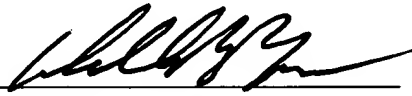
As all of the claims as amended are patentable to applicant over the art of record, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that the case be passed quickly to issue.

If any fees are due beyond fees paid with this amendment, authorization is made to deduct those fees from deposit account 50-0534. If any time extension is needed beyond any extension requested with this amendment, such extension is hereby requested.

Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

No amendments are herein made to the claims or specification in the present response.

Respectfully submitted,
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